

## Message Text

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70

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 H-03

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DRAFTED BY ARA/PAF:BBELL

APPROVED BY ARA/PAF:BBELL

ARA/CCA:LITTLE (INFO)

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P 022049Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 217173

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CU

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON JAVITS/PELL TRIP TO CUBA

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM STATE DEPARTMENT NOON BRIEFING  
OCTOBER 2:

Q: WHAT'S THE STATE DEPARTMENTS REACTION TO THE TRIP  
TAKEN TO CUBA BY SENATORS JAVITS AND PELL AND THEIR CONTACT  
WITH THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT?

A: WELL WE HAVE SAID HERE BEFORE THAT THEY REPRESENTED  
THEMSELVES AND THE COMMITTEE AND CERTAINLY NOT THE EXECUTIVE  
BRANCH. WE HAD SOMETHING TO SAY YESTERDAY ABOUT THEIR  
JUDGMENTS, FOLLOWING THEIR VISIT, WHICH WE DON'T NECESSARILY  
AGREE WITH AND I WILL JUST LEAVE IT THERE.

Q: ALSO ON CUBA, HAS ANY OFFICER OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH  
HAD ANY CONTACT WITH THE CUBAN HEALTH MINISTER WHO IS  
ATTENDING THE MEETING ACROSS THE STREET?

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A: I DON'T BELIEVE SO AND I WOULD DOUBT THAT THERE ARE ANY

SUCH PLANS. I'LL CHECK IT BUT I JUST DON'T BELIEVE SO.  
(SPOKESMAN LATER ASCERTAINED THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CONTACT  
WITH THE MINISTER WITH, OF COURSE, THE EXCEPTION OF THE U.S.  
DELEGATION TO THE SAME PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION.)

Q: THE JAVITS AND PELL VISIT OTHER THAN THEIR NOT SPEAKING  
FOR THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT FEEL  
THAT SUCH TRIPS, SPECIFICALLY THAT TRIP, DOES ANY HARM?

A: WELL, AS YOU KNOW, WE VALIDATED THEIR PASSPORTS. I  
REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW TO ANSWER THE QUESTION. I WOULD  
JUST REPEAT WHAT I SAID BEFORE -- WE DON'T NECESSARILY  
AGREE WITH THEIR JUDGMENTS. MAW

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES, CODELS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE217173  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** BBELL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740278-0885  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741078/aaaacpbl.tel  
**Line Count:** 74  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** schwenja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 JUN 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04 APR 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2003 by smithrj>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <14 JUN 2005 by bryantcd>; APPROVED <15 JUN 2005 by schwenja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS GUIDANCE ON JAVITS/PELL TRIP TO CUBA FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM STATE DEPARTMENT NOON BRIEFING  
**TAGS:** PFOR, OREP, US, CU, (JAVITS, JACOB K), (PELL, CLAIBORNE)  
**To:** ALL POSTS USUN NEW YORK  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005